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NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE WEEK

The event of the week is the joint military action taken by Russia and Great Britain in Iran (Persia) owing to the refusal of the Iran Government to eject the Germans who are in key positions in industry and commerce, the resignation of the Ministry, followed by the formation of a new Ministry and the order to "cease fire" issued by the Iranian Government. The two Governments concerned sent their forces into Iran merely as a security measure. They have specifically stated that they will observe the integrity and independence of Iran and they have no territorial aims in that country.

Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador in the United States, has returned to England and he will stay there for about three weeks, during which time he will attend meetings of the War Cabinet of which he is a member.

The war in Russia is proceeding all along the line and Soviet troops are putting up stiff resistance. The threat to Leningrad from the west and the south has been held at Kingisepp near Narva and at Novogorod, the latter of which is reported to have been evacuated. The citizens of Leningrad have been armed and trained for defence and they are ready to meet any adventure on the part of the Nazis. Leningrad is determined not to give way and it is now an armed camp. It is stated that while the Dnieper dam has been blown up, Dniepropetrovsk has been evacuated.

Russia has placed orders in the United States for war materials totalling 200 million pounds, of which 10 per cent will be delivered in the next few weeks. It is clear that Russia is preparing for a long war and there is a plan for transporting tanks by air.

According to Moscow, German losses in the first two months of the Russo-German war were 8,000 tanks, 10,000 guns, 7,200 aeroplanes and 2 million men in killed, wounded and prisoners. The Soviet losses are 5,500 tanks, 7,500 guns, 4,500 aircraft and 700,000 men. The most significant development is that the German advance is likely to be stayed owing to severe rain.

It is revealed that 190 Allied ships are now fighting side by side with the British Navy. As for merchant tonnage which the Allies have brought to the common cause, the following figures are interesting: Dutch, 480 ships (2,250,000 tons); Norwegians, 720 ships (3,250,000 tons); French, 92 ships (4,00,000 tons); Belgians, 54 ships (2,00,000 tons); Greeks, 240 ships (one million tons); Poles, 32 ships (1,00,000 tons).

The month of July has been a favourable one so far as Allied shipping losses are concerned.

A voice delivering an anti-Nazi speech in German broke into Saturday night's musical programme broadcast by the Deutschland-sender station in Germany. The voice said: "Against Hitler stands the greatest industrial power of the world—the United States. Against Hitler stands the greatest sea power in the world—Great Britain. Against Hitler stands the greatest land force in the world—the Soviet Union. How then can Hitler hope to win this war? I tell you, Hitler will bring nothing but sorrow upon you. Then destroy Hitler and make an end of this senseless war."

A Geneva report quoted by the Moscow Radio says that, in order to meet the growing resistance in Belgium, the Germans have

twice proposed that King Leopold should return to the throne, but each time he declined, He has thus refused to become a "Belgian Laval."

The Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the United States has stated that if the Vichy Government permitted German control of Martinique or other French territory in the Western hemisphere, America will seize that island or any such territory and hold it by armed force.

Mr. Roosevelt has decided to send a military mission to China, thus demonstrating how America views Japanese aggression. The move has been warmly welcomed in China.

Striking evidence of the existence of acute discontent in France and of the growing resentment against the Vichy Government is afforded by the fact that shots were fired at Pierre Laval, notorious for his pro-German sympathies, and at Marcel Deat, the socialist leader who broke with M. Blum. Their condition is reported ot be not very serious.

Mr. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister, has resigned because his colleagues had told him that he was unpopular with a large section of the Press and the people. Mr. A. F. Fadden, leader of the Country Party, has been elected Prime Minister.

THE FAR EAST

The situation in the Far East has, to all appearances, not deteriorated. The United States Government have been labouring, as Mr. Churchill announced in his broadcast speech, with infinite patience to arrive at a fair and amicable settlement which will give Japan the utmost reassurance for her legitimate interests and so there is a possibility of relaxation of the present tension. Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador in Washington has conferred with Mr. Roosevelt after delivering a personal message from the Japanese Premier and it is said that there will be a series of conferences between the representatives of Japan and the United States on all the outstanding questions.

Thailand is alert. Allegations persist in the Japanese radio that Thailand has received demands for bases from Britain and that she has not take any action in connexion with the stationing of British troops in the Thai-Malaya border. Newspapers in Thailand have asked for elucidation as to what really the Japanese want and what the New Order in the Far East means.

Mr. Cordell Hull stated at a Press Conference that the United States views with concern the taking over by Japan of islands in the Pacific to which she is not entitled. America has taken the precautionary measure of mining Manila Bay in the Philippine islands. Meanwhile, British reinforcements have arrived in Malaya. There was a rumour that Great Britain was trying to follow a policy of appeasement towards Japan. This is quite wrong and reports of a barter trade agreement with Japan are evidently Japanese-inspired. The only discussions which are proceeding concern the arrangements for a small clearing account, the main purpose of which is to provide the means of payment to the British consular and diplòmatic representatives in Japan. It is a significant fact that, whereas pre-war Anglo-Japanese trade was in the neighbourhood of £17,500,000, the sum now in question is a few thousands. The situation between Japan and the Netherlands East Indies is substantially very similar.

One point worth noticing is that there is increasng suspicion between Japan and Germany and there is increasing recognition of the fact that the Japanese do not want to pull chestnuts out of the fire for Germany. But there is absolutely no relaxation of measures to meet any contingency on the part of Great Britain. The fact is that if Japan wants war in the Pacific she will get it, but neither Britain nor America will provoke it. They are both firm and vigilant and Great Britain is keeping step with America all along the line.

It has been reported that eleven Russian and American tankers have sailed or are about sail with aviation spirit from America to Vladivostock. The reaction of Japan to this step would be a test of Japanese intentions towards Russia, because Japanese spokesmen have stated that cordial relations existed between the two countries. It was recently announced that the demarcation of the 200 miles of disputed frontier between Manchukuo and Outer Mongolia has been accomplished. At the same time one spokesman said that Japan could not remain indifferent to the supply of raw materials to Soviet Russia by way of Vladivostock. If Japan does anything to interrupt the flow of supplies to Vladivostock, that will be a challenge to America as well as to Russia. Russia has told Japan that if she interferes with the flow material to her through Vladivostock so necessary for her campaign against Germany in the West and for her consumption in the East, she would regard that as an unfriendly act. Japan is protesting in spite of the fact that there is a treaty existing and that she has promised to allow Vladivostock to be used by Russia for trade purposes between America and Russia.

AMERICAN HELP

American help is pouring into Great Britain in various directions. As regards the scale of American effort, the following facts may be of interest :—

(1) The President has revealed that America was spending fourteen and a half million pounds a day, almost the equal of Britain's own daily war expenditure, in aid to Britain.

(2) Workers engaged in munitions now number 2,700,000 and this number will swell next summer to 5,800,000.

(3) Machine tools, the importance of which cannot be minimised, are now being produced at the rate of 1,000 a day which is four times the peak figure in the first World War.

(3) The Maritime Commission, which is producing 1,000,000 tons of shipping, plans next year to turn out 5,400,000 tons. This is a higher figure than Britain's losses in 1940 and far greater than American production in 1919 which was 3,580,000 tons.

As regards the volume of help, it may be mentioned that—

(1) aircraft production which last December totalled about 800 is now 1,500 per month;

(2) Britain which received 1,800 aircraft from America throughout 1940, has been receiving this year an average of 500 aircraft per month;

(3) the new Garand rifle is being produced at the rate of one a minute; and

(4) tanks which in June last year were being produced at the rate of 20 per month, have now reached a monthly rate of 390. Production of 26-ton tanks has commenced.

Other measures of assistance are patrols which now extend to more than 1,000 miles from American shores and which have substantially reduced British losses in the Atlantic, the occupation of Iceland, carriage of war materials up the Red Sea and the new African Ferry service just inaugurated which will speed up the delivery of bombers further afield.

There are two factors which should be taken into account in this connexion. The first is that America is still neutral and that the war effort is necessarily tempered by the state of American public opinion. Of course, pure isolationism is not strong, but interventionism is not yet powerful enough to carry the day. There is, however, the fact that a section of opinion which was frankly opposed to President Roosevelt's policy, is now demanding America's immediate entry into the war. The other factor is the American labour situation. There has been some recrudescence of trouble affecting the progressive increase of production. Measures are being taken to stabilize prices and there have been anti-strike agreements which show that both Government and the American public are alive to the need of wise and all-round handling of labour problems.

THE HOUR OF DECISION

Grave and great decisions affecting all parts of the world are about to be made which are likely to transform the range and character of the gigantic struggle now proceeding. This is a war to the death between those who believe in the progressive achievement of happiness and well-being by means of voluntary co-operation on the basis of respect for personality, and those seeking to satisfy the craving inherent in all human beings to perpetuate their own personality by reverting to barbarism. Modern scientific development has placed terrible weapons in the hands of the would-be master race and centrifugal tendencies of the freedom-loving communities have weakened their capacity for corporate advance.

The Germans believe in the possibility of forcing the people of the victimized countries to believe and follow the Nazi ideas. For this purpose Germany desired to break up the Soviet regime within six weeks by marching into Leningrad and Moscow and taking hold of the oil fields and the products of Ukraine. The swift crippling of Russia's industrial power, followed by the renewal of the northern threat to Iraq and Iran, to Suez and India, was the fulcrum of a world-wide operation designed to secure victory before the winter. The situation in Ukraine is somewhat confused, but everywhere else it is under control. The Germans have in no way succeded in breaking Russian resistance. Any possibility of a drive in the Russian left flank by successive landings along the Black Sea coast, culminating in a seaborne invasion of Trans-Caucasia, is not likely to succeed in view of the superior Russian naval forces in the Black Sea. German air ascendancy over that part of the Black Sea is not very sound, because land fronts which are necessary have not been acquired. Neither is Turkey likely to allow Italian warships through the Dardanelles. A seaborne invasion of the Caucasus, preceded by a combined operation against the Crimea, would require certain facilities to be granted by Turkey, particularly the use of Trebizond, but these facilities will not be given by Turkey. Therefore, it is unlikely that operations by way of the Black Sea will materialize in the near future.

A success in the Ukraine at this time would be invaluable to the Germans as a lever to push hesitant Vichy France and hesitant Japan into the world war on Germany's side. Of course, unoccupied France has been systematically Nazified. The police has been reorganized on Gestapo lines and by Gestapo officials. Concentration camps have been set up for foreigners and there is fear of the police everywhere. Of course, one result of this terrible state of things is that resentment is growing and there have been accounts of demonstrations and rioting in Unoccupied France. Whatever Darlan might have agreed to do, Marshal Petain and General Weygand do not desire to wound the susceptibilities of the United States. It is just possible that the Germans might have been allowed the use of Bizerta port which would strengthen the sea line communication between Sicily and Libya and would also open Tunisia to German forces. As Casablanca and Dakar are of importance to America, it is possible

that nothing would be done in the immediate future to hand them over to Germany. So far as Japan is concerned there is still deep suspicion and distrust between Tokyo and Berlin and it may well be that Japan will think not twice but many times before obeying German dictation. All these may be transformed by a German victory in Southern Russia. Germany may use just that point for a German peace offensive, but the Red Army has reserves in that sector and a decisive result which is essential for the German world-wide plans is unlikely. In the meantime, British, American and Soviet co-operation is building an anti-Axsis front which is as extensive in its range and infinitely more solid than the combination of mutually distrustful powers planned in Berlin.

Therefore, the hour of vital decision has come in Washington, Tokyo, Vichy and Ankara. One hopes that, though Russian and British forces have entered Iran, Teheran will realize even at this stage the folly of her ways and send out the German fifth-columnists. This seems probable because H.M. the Shah of Persia has ceased hostilities against Great Britain and Russia.

RAIN IN RUSSIA

Two things have come to pass which are each bound to have an enormous effect on the German campaign in Russia. The first is the entry into the war of Russia's allies—rain and mud. Reuter's Special Correspondent in Moscow says that Russian roads have become bogged in heavy rain and that movements of tanks across country are unlikely for the present, either on the soft soil of the Ukraine or in the marshy country around Leningrad.

The second event of importance is the entry of British and Russian troops into Iran in order to nip German intrigue in the bud. The immediate consequence of the British advance through Iran will ensure the close co-operation of Russia and Great Britain in an extension of the war front and one which is geographically not difficult to maintain. With British controls stretching eastwards from Egypt through Palestine and Syria to Iraq, it goes without saying that a continuous front with Russians will soon be established in Iran and so on into the Caucasus—a front which will support and strengthen Turkey against Nazi threats and Nazi aggression. Moreover, behind this new front will lie secure supply lines up the Red Sea into Syria and Turkey and up the Persian Gulf *via* Baghgad and Mosul to Turkey and also into the Caucasus and Southern Russia from Basrah, Bushire and Bandarappan through Teheran and Tabriz. If Iran had been left under Nazi influence, all these supply lines would have been endangered and possibly, before very long, would have been cut. These vital lines of supply through the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf lead back to supplies not only from India but also from Australia, from the East Indies, and right back to both the Americas. In a word, direct link will soon be established with the Russian Allies and that material assistance which the Russians require can now reasonably be guaranteed.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

And Mr. Churchill, in his memorable broadcast earlier this week, had said, "Now Hitler is striking at Russia with all his might, well knowing the difficulties of geography which stand between Russia and the aid which the Western Democracies are trying to bring. We shall strive our utmost to overcome all difficulties and to bring this aid. No barrier must stand in the way."

Meanwhile, the Germans do not seem to have it all their own way in the military operations on the long front from the Baltic to the Black Sea. In the north, no doubt, the Russians have evacuated Kexholm but only, it seems, after setting fire to and destroying everything likely to be of value to the enemy. The threat to Leningrad from the west and the south appears to have been held at Kingisepp though Novogorod has been evacuated by the Russians. Soviet "pockets" of resistance are reported to be threatening the German lines in the sector between Lake Peipus and Lake Ilmen. And Leningrad itself is now an armed camp, where Marshal Voroshilov is following Mr. Churchill's directions as regards the defence of Britain; every house is to be a fortress, every street a battlefield.

In the central sector, the notable event this week has been the great couner-offensive launched by General Koniev in the Smolensk area. Many enemy positions have been quickly captured, and bloody losses inflicted on the Germans. Marshal Timoshenko has issued a special Order of the Day, congratulating the Red Army units on having "inflicted a major defeat on the enemy." The Russian successes here will have the effect of drawing off a part of the German troops from the other sectors and affording relief especially to Marshal Budenny in the south. Indeed, it is already reported that the Germans have dug in here, much in the fashion that prevailed in the Great War. A big German push is meanwhile under way at Gomel which, if it succeeds in its eastward thrust, may cut in between the Russian Army of the Centre under Marshal Timoshenko and the Russian Army of the south under Marshal Budenny. To counter this threat the Russians are stated to be rushing reinforcements from Orel and Kursk towards Gomel.

In the south, the Germans claim to have captured the bridgehead at Cherkassy as well as the bridgehead and town of Dniepropetrovsk on the Dnieper but all indications are that, while Marshal Budenny has withdrawn his main body safely across the river to defend the

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TWO YEARS OF WAR

BRITAIN'S GROWING STRENGTH

Nearly two years ago, to be precise, on 1st September 1939, in the half-light of early dawn, the German army marched into Poland. To-day, after two years of stupendous events, frontiers have vanished; free nations have been murdered; free peoples have been enslaved; a *blitz* that started in Eastern Europe, in Polish towns with unpronounceable names, has now (in the words of *The New York Times*) brought its trail of fire to the frozen Arctic and the African deserts. "There is no telling how soon it can be checked; how many millions must die in the process; how much destruction to things and institutions it may cause before it is over. Already, the American people can see the flames licking at their comfortable and sheltered world."

Looking back on the situation a year ago, we can understand what Mr. Churchill meant when he said recently, "See how far we have travelled." The fury of the first German attack conquered Poland in 18 days, with a combination of air power and mechanised weapons on land; it crushed Denmark and Norway in the spring of 1940 with a fiendish combination of sea power and air power and treachery planted under the very guns of the British Navy. It struck down Holland and Belgium by a marvellously co-ordinated use of all the weapons at Germany's disposal. In the end even France was crushed by the supreme German effort of all—France, whose army had been thought the best in the world, France, who felt herself so secure behind her western fortresses that she did not trouble to fortify her Belgian frontier or provide herself with more than five mechanized divisions.

HITLER'S PLANS FRUSTRATED.

August 15, 1940, was the date on which Hitler expected to dictate, from London itself, his terms of peace to a broken Europe; yet Britain stood. On that very 15th of August, the Royal Air Force destroyed 180 planes of the raiding German air force and went on to win the titanic Battle of London. Checked in his ambition, Hitler broke into the Balkans. Soon Greece, which had valiantly beaten back Mussolini's hordes, was overrun, no less than Yugoslavia which, under the guidance of young King Peter and his Premier, General Simovitch, decided to resist the German aggression. But Italy soon lost her East African Empire and her armies in Abyssinia and Somaliland were liquidated by the British Imperial Forces. The Red Sea, cleared of enemy shipping, is now a channel for the American supplies for the Middle East. British forces are actively defending the Egyptian frontier. Though Britain has had to yield to the Germans—who had managed to sneak into Libya by hugging the French African coast—much of the Libyan territory conquered from the Italians, owing to diversion of her forces to help Greece, the Germans have been definitely halted at the Egyptian frontier. And Tobruk remains a thorn on the German side. In Iran, Iraq and Syria, Axis attempts to open a way to the Persian Gulf and to India have been frustrated. From the Turko-Syrian to the Egypto-Libyan border, the defence of the Middle East is uninterrupted. And the British Navy commands the Mediterranean, while the Royal Air Force and the South African Air Force range the sky above.

Chief among the other changes is, of course, the German campaign in Russia, the economic collaboration between the two countries having given way to a bitter struggle along a 2,000 miles front, from the Arctic to the Black Sea, which, in ten weeks, has neither brought the German armies to any of their main objectives nor disorganized the Russian resistance. It has, on the other hand, brought the Polish and Russian peoples together. The Royal Air Force raids Germany and the occupied countries of Europe not only by night but by day in a mounting offensive, bringing hope of deliverance to the conquered people, while German raids on Britain have for some time been reduced to insignificant proportions.

AMERICAN HELP TO BRITAIN.

Depending for food and raw materials on overseas supplies, Britain has not only held out but increased her war-production, and America has now became the Arsenal of Democracy, to quote the words of the President of the United States who has just met the British Prime Minister in mid-Atlantic and joined in a proclamation of the war and peace aims of the Democracies. The Americans are in Iceland, patrolling the North Atlantic and determined that nothing shall be allowed to interfere with the supply lines to Britain and the Middle East. The Lease and Lend Bill passed by the American Congress puts the United States' sympathy and admiration for Britain in tangible form. During the past several months, aeroplanes running into thousands made in American factories have been flown or shipped across the Atlantic. These range from the largest Boeing four-engined "Fortress" bombers to the fastest fighters. They are in combat now. A vast programme for building thousands of these giants of the air is far advanced and Hitler will not be able to move his factories far enough to the east to escape their devastating power of destruction. America has already sent several hundred tanks throughout the Empire. Many more are on their way, "Ocean-going ships, many of them oil tankers, have been transferred to Britain," said Mr. Harry Hopkins, who is in charge of

the operations under the Lease and Lend Act. "The greatest merchantship building programme ever undertaken is in progress. Night and day the rivetting never ceases. To-day American-made tanks are caterpillaring over the plains of Mid-Eastern Desert. To-day American-made aeroplanes of every description are roaring into combat wherever the Luftwaffe shows its face. To-day the factories of England are in full production. The machine tools sing a joyous song and part of this symphony of industry comes from American-made machine tools."

AXIS SHIPPING LOSSES

Britain's shipping position shows continuous improvement and the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Alexander, has said this week it is the best since May last year. The Axis shipping losses just published for the five weeks July 12 to August 16 reveal a number of interesting facts. The Axis losses of 616,000 tons were greater than any single month of Allied losses since the war began. The highest Allied figure was 581,000 tons last April, and the average is 320,000 tons a month. The Allied losses for June (the last month for which figures were published) were 324,000 tons, from which it can be seen that Axis monthly losses have now surpassed those of the Allies although the Allies have every day 2,000 ships at sea, of which 200 are in the danger zone. The total Axis shipping losses in the war have now passed the four million mark, which means that they have lost more than half the tonnage with which they set out, not counting the ships seized in United States and other American ports or still sheltering in neutral harbours. The efficiency of the Russian Navy is demonstrated in the news that 200,000 tons of Axis shipping has been sunk in the Baltic and Black Sea.

Indeed, the reversal of the position in the year's warfare is shown by the Germans' own fear of invasion. A year ago, they were threatening what they would do to Britain after invading it, but to-day they are anxiously discussing the possibility of a British invasion of the Continent. The German press has been devoting several columns recently to rumours that Britain is planning to establish a new front in Northern Scandinavia; and German bombers, based on Kirkness in Norway, have redoubled their patrol activities!

WILL THE WAR SPREAD?

The war of 1914–18 was rightly called the World War because every continent was involved. Before its conclusion, Canada, the United States and Brazil were combatants in the American continent. Japan and China joined, Russia making the third great Asiatic power, and Asia Minor, North West and East Africa were all scenes of battle. So that what began as a European war spread to all continents. The present war, as far as land fighting is concerned, has been mainly confined to Europe, owing to the fact that Germany had no overseas colonies or bases. The naval war has been conducted in all the oceans of the world, as is always the case with sea fighting. Until the intervention of Italy provided fields of warfare in Africa, it is broadly true to describe the present war as being fought in Europe. It is from European harbours that German surface raiders and U-boats sail to prey on commerce. It is from European aerodromes that long-range bombers fly to attack merchant shipping. With the exception of the abortive German attempts to involve Iran, Syria and Iraq, Asia has not been a combat zone, as far as the Allied and Axis powers are concerned: for the moment, we may leave out of account the five-year-old hostilities between China and Japan which may, however, merge in the European war if Japan does not restrain her ambition. To become a world war in the true sense of the term, fighting must spread to Asia, the Americas and lands in the Pacific. Is this likely to happen and how can it happen?

If the Japanese forces are moved south from Indo-China to Thailand, this is so serious a threat to Burma and the Malay States that the British Empire is certain to resist such encroachment without delay. The Japanese occupation of Indo-China is (as Lord Strabolgi points out) what may be described as a borderline case. The Vichy Government of France have declared themselves satisfied that French sovereignity over Indo-China is not affected. The case of Thailand would be entirely different. The sovereignity of that independent kingdom would be immediately and directly threatened by a forcible occupation of its territories, ports and aerodromes by Japanese forces.

The defence of Australia and New Zealand hinges on the great fortress and naval base of Singapore. Neither Dominion Government could tolerate such a threat to Singapore. The Dutch East Indies is as deeply involved. The Government of the United States have made it abundantly clear that no alteration in the *status quo* in the Pacific will be tolerated. The Indo-China affair went to the very edge of a risk forcing the Government in Washington to become a belligerent.

If the Japanese Government remain content with their strategic gains in Indo-China, they are still capable of causing a great extension of the war by attacking Russia in Asia in the interest of Axis partnership. Were this to happen and the Russian Government to make an active appeal to the British Empire for assistance, it is difficult to conceive how the British Empire would avoid hostilities with Japan. The war would then extend to the whole of Asia and the Pacific and sooner or later the United States would be directly involved.

But, as Mr. Churchill has stated, for more than a year now, Britain has faced the Axis alone. "All alone we have had to guard the treasures of mankind." And she is entitled to take credit for the striking improvement in her position and victory is but her due.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

On Monday morning last, Russian troops in the north and British and Indian troops from the south and west of Persia entered into that country. The British and Indian troops entered Persia at three points with naval and air co-operation and they were Khanaqin, Khorramshahr and Abadan and in the last place there was some slight resistance. Indian troops also secured Bandar-i-Shahpur where two German ships (damaged), three Italian ships (slightly damaged) and two further German ships which had been beached were captured with their crews. The operation has been so rapid that only minimum loss has been inflicted on Iranian personnel. Indian troops have greatly distinguished themselves. British forces have advanced 100 miles. The Soviet troops entered Iran from the north in two directions. It is said they have advanced about 100 miles. Soviet troops have captured Tabriz and other towns. Oil-refineries and installations have been secured without damage and air-borne troops were sent to oil-fields to protect the families employed by the oil companies. Tabriz, it will be noted, is on the direct road to Teheran and is connected to the Baku oil-centre and to Tiflis, on the Russian oil pipe-line, by railway.

But a sudden and dramatic, but altogether welcome development has taken place since the Russian and British forces entered Iran. His Majesty the Shah, realizing the futility of resistance and the loss to lives and property involved by it, intervened in time and to good effect. The Ministry headed by Ali Mansur resigned and another, with Ali Farughi as Prime Minister, has taken its place. The news was flashed by the Teheran Radio on Thursday that, the new Prime Minister announced to parliament the formation of the new Cabinet and the order of the Government to all the armed forces to cease resistance. Parliament approved of this decision by a unanimous vote of confidence. The new Prime Minister told Parliament that Iran desired to maintain friendly relations with foreign Powers and her neighbours, that the people and the Government of Iran had always been and were partisans of peace and peaceful relations with the rest of the world and that, in order to avoid bloodshed and disturbance of security, the order to "cease fire" had been issued. In Britain the news has been welcomed, because neither Russia nor Great Britain had any territorial claim on Iran.

Iran is a country of 628,000 square miles and has a population of 15,000,000. Its present ruler who is called the Shah of Iran is Reza Khan Pehlevi. There is compulsory training for military service in that country. Iran is one of the great oil-producing countries in the world and Great Britain holds a substantial interest in the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company which produces more than 10 million tons a year. Soviet Union accounts for 40 per cent of Iran's foreign trade, while Germany, Great Britain and the United States come next. The importance of Iran to Russia, Great Britain and India is that to the north of Persia lies the Caucasus through which Hitler hopes to march his armies, then strike west into Iraq and Syria and south into India.

GERMAN INFILTRATION

For months past, the Iran Government has been allowing a large number of Germans to enter into that country and hold key positions in industries, commerce, communications, etc. Hitler's object is of course to demoralize the people, bring confusion and convert the Government into a slave-state. Already most of Iran's foodstuffs have been taken away and the economic position of Iran is now precarious.

Moreover, according to the Moscow Radio, the Germans who are daily increasing in number, wanted to bring about by force a change in the Government of that country. Further, they had established dumps of arms and ammunition at various points, especially in the northern provinces and in certain places they have prepared over 50 tons of explosives. The German residents have been given military training in order to further their intentions. They had also entered into big industrial concerns as technicians.

WARNING UNHEEDED

On three occasions, June 26, July 19 and August 16, the Soviet Government had warned the Iran Government about the danger represented by the subversive and diversionist activities of German agents and spies. On July 19 and August 16, the British Government also joined in these friendly but firm representations that a greater number of these Germans should be sent out of the country, as otherwise the interests of the two countries apart from the interests of Iran herself, would be in jeopardy. But these representations were unheeded. The Iranian Government, though at one time it seemed to realize the danger, persisted in its folly and refused to send out these German agents on the plea that it knew how to keep them in check.

RUSSIAN AND BRITISH INTERESTS

The Nazis are now attacking Russia and there is a threat to the Caucasus through which Hitler intends to march south into Iran, making it a base for further operations in the west and south. As for the British it is well known that Iran is the only country near the Middle East in which anti-British Arab elements are taking refuge. There is further the oil-production in Iran which is of considerable importance to the Middle East, the R.A.F. and the British Mediterranean Fleet. Further, politically, as General Molesworth stated in his broadcast on Monday last, "Nazi intrigue and organized activity in Iran was not only a danger to Iran itself, but a direct threat to that country's Muslim

neighbours in Iraq, Syria and the Middle East generally, and a dagger pointed at the very throat of India."

THE OBJECT OF THE MILITARY ACTION

Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief in India, is in charge of operations in Iran. Great Britain and Russia are not at war with Iran. Regarding the object of this move, General Molesworth said: "Firstly, neither the British nor the Soviet Governments have any territorial designs in Iran or elsewhere. This has been clearly stated in the joint declaration issued by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing the British Government, which was issued to the world on the 15th August last. Secondly, neither Great Britain nor Russia sought any aggrandisement, territorial or other. Thirdly, this military action is designed solely to deny to the Axis any further opportunity to threaten the security of Russia, the countries of the Middle East and India, and to prevent the oil and other resources of Iran from falling into Nazi hands—which Iran herself would be powerless to prevent.

These facts have been clearly explained to the people of Teheran in leaflets thousands of which were dropped by planes. The leaflet runs as follows:—

> "Iranians! thousands of Germans are living in your country. By a calculated plan they are holding important positions in industry. When Hitler gives the word they can sabotage the main sources of your revenues. They are organized by the German Legation, and every man has special orders. You know they stirred up trouble in Iraq. They will not hesitate to do the same in Iran.
>
> "This is exactly what happened in many European countries before they were invaded by Germany. Those in authority in Iran have ignored our repeated warnings of the danger of allowing these Germans to stay in your country, a danger not only to you but to British and Russia too.
>
> "We are determined that the Germans must go, and if the Iranians do not throw them out both British and Russia will. Our forces are irresistable.
>
> "Iranians! we have no quarrel with you, nor have we any designs on your country, or your goods. We only wish to drive out these accursed Germans, whose aim is to make your country a seat of war and misery. If you help us now we will help you both now and in the future."

OBJECTS EXPLAINED TO OTHER COUNTRIES

Russia and Great Britain have kept United States informed of the intentions of these Governments in the military action in Iran. Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Afghanistan have also been apprised of these aims. As a matter of fact, Turkey should feel more assured than ever that any threat to her from Nazis would be met by prompt action, thanks to Iran being safe.

General Molesworth, in his broadcast speech stated that steps will be taken to supply the people of Iran with the corn, foodstuffs, and other essentials which the Nazis have stolen. As a matter of fact India has already sent Iran 60,000 tons of wheat.

HELP TO U.S.S.R.

It is surmized that while safeguarding Iranian oil-fields, the military action will also open the line of communication with the Soviet Russia and the Caucasus. It is possible that a direct link will be established with the Russian forces in Caucasus in order to ensure British and American aid to get into Russia through the shortest route.

It should again be emphasized that Russian and British Governments have absolutely no quarrel with the Iranian people. What they want is that, as General Molesworth stated, that the Iran Government which systematically rejected the advice of both these countries against the danger should be brought to its senses. The representatives of Russia and Great Britain are still at Teheran while Iranian representatives are continuing their duties in London and Moscow. What should be remembered is that Iran is the back-door to the British position in the Middle East and India and to Russia *via* the Caucasus. Any danger to the sovereignty of Iran is also a danger to the Middle East, India and Russia. The situation is particularly dangerous now because the Germans have advanced along the north coast of the Black Sea. As this threat intensifies the German agents in Iran have been very busy in strengthening themselves and in inducing the Iranian Government to lend air bases, for instance at Tabriz. From these demands it should have been clear to the Iranian Government that the Germans use unscrupulous methods of warfare which undermine the population of the countries which they desire to reduce to slavery. For instance, the rapid fall of Norway, Holland, Belgium and Yugoslavia were due principally to Nazi organizations set up in these countries, the lack of preparation in the countries despite repeated warnings, and the ruthless German use of their organizations when the countries were invaded. It is notorious how, after using the Quislings for some time, Hitler dismisses them in favour of his own people. In Syria and Iraq, he had no scruples in deserting his own tools. The Iranian Government might well have learnt a lesson by the strong action taken by the South American Republics against Nazi intrigues and infiltrations.

The Press in India, in Great Britain and the Dominions, and in America, are unanimous in welcoming the step that has been taken. As has been rightly pointed out "It is not an invasion but an action intended to help Iran from a threat which the Iran Government would not or could not see."

IRAN AND HER PEOPLE

A FEW FACTS

In view of the military action taken by Russia and Great Britain in Iran, the following information about the country, its communications and defence will be read with interest :

Geographically Iran can be divided into three distinct areas : the Caspian provinces in the north, the high Central Plateau and the Persian Gulf Littoral at the top of the Gulf.

The terrain in the Caspian provinces is low-lying and so abundantly covered by trees and dense undergrowth as to be often impenetrable. The coast is fringed with a chain of sandhills, piled up by the surf and winds, which have forced the rivers and many streams to spread themselves out in wide morasses and lagoons. Temperature and rainfall are always moderate, but excessive humidity from June to September makes conditions very relaxing, and mosquitoes render the lowlands almost uninhabitable. From November to the middle of April the climate is temperate and healthy.

The area of the Central Plateau covers two-thirds of Iran and has a mean altitude of from three to four thousand feet. The greater part consists of mountains which run in numerous parallel ranges, generally from north-west to south-east. Some of these ranges run for over 100 miles at an altitude of 8,000 feet, rising in places to 15,000 feet. In the centre of the plateau is a strip of desert, 800 miles long and from 100 to 300 miles wide, also running from north-west to south-east. The country-side is arid and bare, though heavy snowfall in winter keeps the hillsides green, and affords grazing, while the valleys almost invariably contain streams of clear and fast running water.

There are extreme ranges of temperature, but the atmosphere is clear, dry and invigorating. From December to February snow falls everywhere and lies on the highest mountain ranges until June or July. The changes in season are very sudden and the hottest months are July and August, when the average maximum shade temperature is 105°F. Dust, glare, flies and sandflies are the worst features of the summer. The rainfall is scanty and variable, generally occurring in November.

The terrain in the Persian Gulf Littoral is a flat, alluvial plain, broken in only one place near Ahwaz by a 30-mile range of sandhill rising to 200 feet. The level open plains are mostly barren and sprinkled with desert scrub, though some parts are cultivated. Between the coastal plain and the central plateau is a strip of very mountainous country, the Bakhtiari Range, which is extremely difficult for motor transport to negotiate.

The heat from June to September is intense and the humidity renders the climate particularly trying. In December, January and February it is cold, but freezing point is not reached. The rainfall occurs from November to February and averages 5 inches.

The population of Iran amounts to some ten millions, made up of a number of distinct Iranian races; the Kurds, the Lurs and Bakhtiaris, the Quashgais and the Kurgelus. These still retain their distinctive ethnological and linguistic characteristics. Seventy-five per cent of the population are engaged in agricultural pursuits and the remainder form an urban class of artisans and small tradesmen.

The majority of Iranians profess the Shi'a branch of the Mohammedan faith; the Kurds, however, are mostly Sunni. The Shi'a branch of Islam was constituted the State religion of Iran in 1499. Zoroastrianism was the original religion of Iran until the Arab conquest. As a result of the ensuing persecutions many followers fled to India where they are now known as Parsis.

There are only four towns in Iran which have more than 100,000 inhabitants—Teheran, the capital (over 500,000), Tabriz, world famous for its carpets (200,000), Isfahan, the central trade depot, (103,000), and Meshed, the famous Shi'a pilgrim centre (125,000). This city is the only one in the whole of Iran of any special religious significance to the Moslem world in general.

Other important centres are Ahwaz, capital of the south, Resht, through which most of the Caspian Sea trade passes, and the ports mentioned below.

COMMUNICATIONS

The chief Iranian ports on the Persian Gulf are Bandar Shahpur, Khorramshahr, Abadan and Bushire. Bandar Shahpur is situated about 30 miles from the open sea and is the southern terminus of the Trans-Iranian Railway. Khorramshahr is the headquarters of the Iranian Navy. Abadan is the oil port and refinery of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and is as modern, in many respects, as an English industrial town. On the Caspian the chief port is Pahlevi; there are also ports at Naushahr and Bandar Shah, the northern terminus of the Trans-Iranian Railway.

The Trans-Iranian Railway, 868 miles in length, crosses the country from Bandar Shah in the north to Bandar Shahpur in the south. As an engineering feat it represents a considerable achievement, running as it does for a considerable part of its length through very difficult country. It is a single-track line all

the way. From Teheran a branch line runs north-west as far as Zinjan and this will eventually be extended to join the line which runs from the Russian frontier to Tabriz. A branch line to Meshed is also under construction and has reached Shahrud.

The Iranian Government has attached great importance to the development of its roads and, in spite of the difficulties of finance, the great distances to be covered and the mountainous nature of the country, its efforts have met with considerable success and a net-work of roads covers the country and connects all places of importance. The basis of this network of roads is the restangle Kazvin-Teheran-Qum-Hamadan, and it will be seen that all roads leading into the country join up with this rectangle. The main routes leading into Iran are:—

FROM TRANS-CASPIA

A railway runs from Mery to Sarakhs, and thence there is a road through Meshed to Teheran. This, however, is a very roundabout way of reaching the important part of the country.

From the Caspian Ports all three ports, Bandar Shah, Naushahr and Pahlevi, are joined up to the rectangle by road, and in the case of the first by rail as well.

Through the Caucasus.—There is a railway and a road from Julfa to Tabriz from which a good road runs to Kazvin and a not-so-good road to Kermanshah and Hamadan. It would also be possible to go by road from Julfa round the western shores of Lake Urmia (Daryacheh-i-Shah), through Haiderabad, to Kermanshah.

From Australia.—There is a difficult road from Erzerum to Maku and thence to Tabriz.

From Iraq.—There are three main roads into the country from Iraq. The most northerly one runs from Rowanduz to Haiderabad, the central one from Khaniqin to Kermanshah and Hamadan, and the third from Basra to Kherramshah and Ahwaz, then northwards to Hamadan and Teheran.

OIL AND ECONOMIC CONDITION

The oil areas in Iran, leased by the Iranian Government to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company until 1993, mostly lie in the plains of Southern Arabistan at the head of the Persian Gulf. There is another small area at Naft-i-Shah, on the Iraqi-Iranian border, north-west of Baghdad. Pipe-lines run from the two oilfields to refineries at Abadan and Kermanshah. The Naft-i-Shah field is also connected to Khaniqin in Iraq.

The importance of the oil industry to Iran is demonstrated by the fact that the oil royalty paid to the Government amounts to some £4,000,000 annually, this being about 10 per cent of the total national revenue. In addition, many Iranians occupy lucrative positions in the Company, and the railways obtain cheap fuel. The output from the Abadan refinery is the largest in the East, and in 1937 amounted to 10,000,000 tons.

The economic situation in Iran has not been satisfactory in recent years. The great efforts of H.I.M. the Shah to develop the resources, industries and communications of his country, which have necessitated the import of large quantities of materials from overseas, have led to a considerable increase in taxation, with a resulting rise in the cost of living. There has recently been a severe food shortage in the provinces, and in 1941 famine conditions were only avoided by importing large quantities of wheat from India. Although the exchange is officially 'pegged' at about Rials 5 to the Rupee, a 'black' market exists in which the rate of exchange is nearer Rials 14 to the Rupee.

DEFENCE

The strength of the Army, which is on a conscript basis, is 126,000 officers and men, organized in 18 divisions and a mechanized brigade. Iran possesses considerable quantities of modern military equipment, but the Army has had little opportunity of using it, and so far not at all against a well-equipped enemy. The Iranian Army, like the Russian Army untill recently, is one about whose fighting value little is known.

The small Air Force has approximately 125 aircraft. Iran also possesses a few small naval vessels stationed at the head of the Persian Gulf. Assistance was given by Italy in the training of Iranian Naval personnel.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

(*Continued from Page* 4)

industrial region of the Ukraine, fighting still goes on well to the west of the Dnieper. The Germans, however, are stated to be threatening the industrial sector of Dniepro-Petrovsk where the Russians now announce that they have blown up a huge dam and hydro-electric works rather than allow them to fall into the hands of the Germans. They must have reached this place either from the north along the bank of the Dnieper or straight from Krinoi Rog on the west. The Ukraine is, thus, menaced from two directions from the north (as stated above) and from the south where the Germans are advancing from Nikolayev.

In the extreme south, the Nazis claim the capture of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper and of Ochakov, a Black Sea port between Odessa and the river mouth. But the Russians have inflicted a heavy defeat on the Rumanians in the Odessa sector; and some Rumanian divisions, in the terse language of the Soviet Communiqué, have ceased to exist as fighting units.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST

MESSAGE OF THE ATLANTIC MEETING

In his broadcast speech to the world on Sunday, the 24th instant, Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, expounded the message of the Atlantic meeting, the lessons which that conference between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill had for the world and the hopes which the nations under the heel of Hitler might well entertain.

A SYMBOLIC MEETING

Mr. Churchill said that the meeting somewhere in the Atlantic between himself and Mr. Roosevelt was bound to be important "because of the enormous forces at present only partially mobilized but steadily mobilizing, which are at the disposal of these two major groupings of the human family, the British Empire and the United States." He said that, "it symbolizes in a form and manner which every one can understand, in every land and every clime, the deep underlying unities which stir, and, at the decisive moment, rule the English-speaking peoples throughout the world." It symbolized further "the marshalling of the good forces of the world against the evil forces which now are so formidable and triumphant and have cast their cruel spell over the whole of Europe and a large part of Asia." "This was a meeting which marks for ever in the pages of history the taking up by the English-speaking nations, amid all this peril, tumult and confusion, of the guidance of the fortunes of the broad, toiling masses in all continents and our loyal effort, without any clog of selfish interest, to lead them forward out of the miseries into which they have been plunged back to the broad, high road of freedom and justice."

HITLER'S NEW ORDER

Speaking of the Nazi terror in Europe, Mr. Churchill said:

"Awful, horrible things are happening these days. The whole of Europe has been wrecked and trampled down by the mechanical weapons and the barbarous fury of the Nazis. The most deadly instruments of war-science have been joined to the extreme refinements of treachery and the most brutal exhibitions of ruthlessness and thus have formed a combine of aggression, the like of which has never been known, before which the rights, traditions characteristics and structures of many ancient and honoured States and peoples have been laid prostrate and now ground down under the heel and terror of the monster. Austrians, Czechs, Poles, Norwegians, Danes, Belgians, Dutch, Greek, Croats, Serbs and, above all, the great French nation have been stunned and pinioned. Italy, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria have bought a shameful respite by becoming the jackals of the tiger. But their true situation is very little different and presently will be indistinguishable from that of his victims. Sweden, Spain and Turkey stand appalled, wondering which will be struck down next. Here then is a vast pit, into which all the most famous States and races of Europe have been flung, from which, unaided, they can never climb."

Speaking of the method to which Hitler had so faithfully adhered, in conquering other countries, the Prime Minister said:

"What is that method? It is a very simple method. 'One by one,' that is his plan: that is his guiding rule: that is the trick by which he has enslaved so large a portion of the world."

And what is his New Order?

"Hitler and his confederates have for some time been adjuring, bullying and beseeching the populations whom they have wronged and injured to bow to their fate, to resign themselves to their servitude and, for the sake of some mitigations and indulgencies, to collaborate—that is the word—in what is called 'the New Order in Europe.' What is this new order which they seek to fasten first upon Europe and, if possible—for their ambitions are boundless—upon all the continents of the Globe?"

"It is the rule of Herrenvolk, the master race, who are to put an end to Democracy, parliaments, fundamental freedoms and the decencies of ordinary men and women, to the historic rights of nations and to give them in exchange the iron rule of Prussia, the universal goose-step and strict and efficient discipline, enforced upon the working classes by the political police, with German concentration camps and firing parties, now so busy in a dozen lands, always handy in the background. Napoleon, in his glory and genius, spread his Empire far and wide. There was a time when only the snows of Russia and the white cliffs of Dover, with their guardian fleets, stood between him and the domination of the world. Napoleon's armies had a theme: they carried with them surges of the French revolution. 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.' That was the cry. There was a sweeping change of outworn, mediaeval systems and aristocratic privilege: land for the people and a new code of laws. Nevertheless, Napoleon's Empire vanished like a dream."

OBJECT OF HITLER'S ATTACK ON RUSSIA

Mr. Churchill went on to say that Hitler made a treaty of non-aggression with Soviet Russia in order to keep her quiet till he was ready to attack her and then, without a vestige of provocation, he hurled millions of soldiers with all their apparatus upon the neighbour he had called friend, with the avowed object of destroying Russia and tearing her to pieces. "Here is a devil," Mr. Churchill went on, "who in a mere spasm of his pride and lust for domination, can condemn two or three millions, perhaps it may be many more, of human beings to a speedy and violent death. 'Let Russia be blotted out—let Russia be destroyed—order the armies to advance'. Such were his decrees."

But Hitler counted without the host. Russian resistance to the aggressor has surprised, staggered and startled him. "For the first time, Nazi blood has flowed in a fearful flood. Perhaps a million and a half, perhaps two million Nazi cannon fodder have bitten the dust of the endless plains of Russia." And Hitler's retaliation is most frightful. He has exterminated scores of thousands of people in cold blood.

HELP TO RUSSIA

The Prime Minister, after referring to the difficulties of geography which stand between Russia and the aid which the Western Democracies are trying to give, said: "We shall strive our utmost to overcome all difficulties and to bring this aid. We have arranged a conference in Moscow between the United States, British and Russian authorities to settle the whole plan. No barrier must stand in the way."

WARNING TO JAPAN

Speaking of Japan, Mr. Churchill said that seeking to emulate the style of Hitler and Mussolini, Japan has been invading and harrying the 500 million inhabitants of China. Japan has brought carnage, ruin and corruption calling it 'the Chinese Incident,' and Japan is stretching a grasping hand into the Southern Seas of China. "She has snatched Indo-China from the wretched Vichy French; she menaces by her movements Siam, Singapore, the British link with Australia and the Philippine islands under the protection of the United States. It is certain this has got to stop. Every effort will be made to secure a peaceful settlement which will give Japan the utmost reassurance for her legitimate interests. We earnestly hope that these negotiations will succeed. But this I must say. If these hopes should fail we shall range ourselves unhesitatingly at the side of the United States."

ATLANTIC CHARTER

The primary objects of the meeting between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill was to give the conquered countries the hope and the conviction that their sufferings and their resistances would not be in vain. "The tunnel may be dark and long but at the end there is light." Addressing the oppressed nations Mr. Churchill said:

"Do not despair, brave Norwegians: your land shall be cleansed not only from the invader but from the filthy Quislings who are his tools. Be sure of yourselves, Czechs: your independence shall be restored. Poles, the heroism of your people standing up to the cruel oppressors, the courage of your soldiers, sailors and airmen shall not be forgotten. Your country shall live again and resume its rightful path in the new organization of Europe. Lift up your heads, gallant Frenchmen. Not all the infamies of Darlan and Laval shall stand between you and the restoration of your birthright. The tough, stout-hearted Dutch, Belgians and Luxembourgers, the tormented, mishandled and shamefully cast-away peoples of Yugoslavia, glorious Greece now subjected to the crowning insult of the rule of the Italian jackanapes, yield not an inch. Keep your souls clean from all contact with the Nazis. Make them feel even in their fleeting hour of triumph that they are the moral outcasts of mankind.

"Help is coming. Mighty forces are arming in your behalf. Have faith. Have hope. Deliverance is sure. There is a signal which we have flashed across the waters and if it reaches the hearts of those to whom it is sent, they will endure with fortitude and tenacity their present misfortunes in the sure faith that they too are still serving the common cause and their efforts will not be in vain. You will perhaps have noticed that the President of the United States and the British representatives in what is aptly called the Atlantic Charter have jointly pledged their countries to the final destruction of Nazi tyranny.

"That is the solemn, grave undertaking. It must be made good. It will be made good. And, of course, many practical arrangements to fulfil that purpose have been, and are being organized and set in motion."

AIMS IN THE LAST WAR AND IN THE PRESENT WAR

Mr. Churchill said that the President and himself had the idea that without attempting

(*Continued on Page* 15.)

NAZI EXPECTATIONS DISAPPOINTED

FATE OF GERMAN PROPHECIES

" See how far we have travelled " said Mr. Churchill last January—and we have travelled further since then along the hard road to victory.

Milestones along this road are the gravestones of Nazi hopes, boasts and expectations.

Bremen Radio in Flemish on May 17, 1940 prophesied victory over England in a few months. It has not happened.

The N. B. B. S. (Fake Nazi station for Britain) said on July 23, 1940 that Hitler expected the campaign against Britain to be over by September. It has not happened.

Nazi-controlled Radio Kalundberg, in Danish on the following day, gave August 15, 1940 as the date for the overthrow of Britain. It has not happened.

Konigsberg Radio said in Swedish on August 14, 1940 that London would capitulate on September 17. It has not happened.

Rome Radio prophesied in English on August 18, 1940 the total defeat of Britain is a matter of days. It has not happened.

Bremen Radio in English on September 9, 1940 said that " in a few weeks the conflagration would be ended." It has not happened.

In November 1940 Dr. Goebbels said to Scandinavian correspondents in Berlin: " In half a year I will talk to you again, and you will see that my prophecy of victory will have been correct." It has not happened.

In March 1941 Dr. Goebbels said to Spanish correspondents in Berlin: " I affirm again that before the year is over Germany will win the war." It has not happened and it will not happen.

Here are some further Nazi declarations to which events have given the lie :

Invasion of Britain

" The German artillery will smash everything to bits, London will become a heap of ruins and the poor wretches waiting for the Nazis will never see them. The remnants of the streets of London will remain quiet for ever ".—*German talk in English, July 17, 1940.*

" British military authorities have realized that they are unable to check German invasion ".—*German News in Arabic, August 7, 1940.*

The Luftwaffe and the R.A.F.

" If London or any other big English city attempts to defend itself, its destruction would be a matter of a few hours or minutes ".—*German broadcast to Portugal, July 1940.*

" During the air raids of the last three days British ports and aerodromes have been destroyed and now Britain has no base from which she could launch any attack ".—*German news in English, August 15, 1940.*

" Every German child knows that not a single enemy plane can reach Germany ".—*German news in Hindustani, September 22, 1940.*

Blockade and Starvation

" Britain's food stocks will last only a coup'e of weeks ".—*German broadcast, July 19, 1940.*

" Britain has been completely blockaded. She has now only two alternatives—either starvation or collapse ".—*German news in Arabic, August 6, 1940.*

" In future there will be only one blockade, a blockade of Britain by Germany.—*German talk in English, August 22, 1940.*

Sea Power

" The sinking and destroying of the whole or British shipping will become a matter of two months.—*German talk in English, August 7. 1490.*

" The British fleet has suffered such heavy damage it is considered wise not to use it any more ".—*Italian news in English, August 15, 1940.*

Money for the war

" British economy is on the verge of collapse".—*German broadcast, August 10, 1940.*

" Great Britain is at the end of her financial resources ".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

The Free French

" The number of Frenchmen who left their country and joined de Gaulle's party in order to continue the struggle against Germany on foreign soil can be counted on the fingers of one hand ".—*German news in English, August 6, 1940.*

American Aid

" Even if the British Government ensures that purchases are made in America, the German forces will ensure that they shall not be delivered ".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

" These American aircraft are inferior both to the German and British. They can play no part in Britain's military defences ".—*German talk in English, December 5, 1940.*

Axis in Africa

" An attack on England will take place in the near future, and later in September, the war will spread to Africa. If all proceeds according to plan, by the end of the year two continents will have been added to the German Reich and the Italian Empire ".—*German broadcast to Denmark, July 1940.*

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD

NEW ORDER OF ALLIES AND HITLER

In the left hand column below are the eight points of the joint declaration of policy issued in the name of their Governments and peoples by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt at their historic Atlantic meeting :—

Churchill-Roosevelt

1. " Their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other."

2. " They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned."

3. " They respect the rights of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them."

4. " They will endeavour with due respect to their existing obligations to further the enjoyment by all states great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to the trade and the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity."

5. " They desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and serial progress."

6. " After the final destruction of Nazi tyranny they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurances that all the men in all the lands may live out their loves in freedom from fear and want."

(*Continued on page* 18)

In the right hand column Nazi aims are exposed in quotations from Hitler's own words (as recorded by his former adviser Hermann Rauschnigg in his book " Hitler Speaks ") and from other authentic sources :—

Hitler

1. " We must have Europe and its colonies . . . . Germany will spread its might far beyond its borders in the East as well as in the South-East. . . . We have a right to South America. . . . Natural instincts bid all living beings not merely conquer their enemies but destroy them." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

2. " This struggle will open to us the door to permanent mastery of the world. . . . There will still be the class of subject alien races. We need not hesitate to call them the modern slave class." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

3. " The day of small states is past. . . We do not seek equality but mastery. We shall not waste time over minority rights and other such ideological abortions of sterile democracy." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

4. " After the end of the war Germany must digest the incorporated territories. From the economic point of view this means adjustment to the German economy." (*Voelkischer Beobachter, 20th August 1940.*)

" Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world and will for example cause the United States to have not 7,000,000 but 30–40,000,000 unemployed. Mr. Roosevelt will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw materials at prices which we will dictate." *Nazi Agriculture Minister Darré to party officials, May 1940.*)

5. " All soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed among the worthy members of the Party and soldiers who were accorded honours for bravery in this war. . . This German aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless, non-German nationals. We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery which we must and will introduce. . . Work must be as cheap as possible in order that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly." (*Darré*).

6. " The world can only be ruled by fear. . . . Terror is the most effective political instrument. . . . I recognize no moral law in politics. . . . There will be no licence, no free space, in which the individual belongs to himself." (*Hitler Speaks*).

BRITAIN AND THE AXIS

1940

The year 1940 was a bleak one. It was bleak not only for Poland, Norway, Denmark, the Low Countries and France, all of which Germany overran with her fifth columns, her parachutists, her mechanised might and the brutality of her occupation policy. It was a year also of grave peril for Britain.

Her European Allies had been struck from her side, and Italy had come in against her in the hope of sharing easy spoils. Russia was neutral but assisting Germany economically. Rumania joined the Axis camp, giving Germany most of her oil. Other neutrals, awed by power-politics, succumbed to various degrees of Axis pressure.

The U. S. A. offered Britain sympathy, admiration, and the beginnings of material aid. But she was not organized for war production.

Heroic exploits of the Royal Air Force forced postponement of German invasion plans, inspired the whole British nation, united as never before, to face out bombing through the autumn and winter. Hitler's great chance dwindled as Britain's confidence grew and the Empire rapidly mobilized.

Despite Germany's declared blockade, Britain retained control of the seas, particularly of the Mediterranean. Italy failed on land as well as sea to shake the fruit from the tree to which she thought the axe had been laid. But Britain knew that the outlook was still charged with peril, demanding every ounce of her will to resist against great odds.

1941

The gravity of Britain's danger has passed. That of Germany has increased as she fights a two-front war, herself invaded in the air and fearing invasion on land. The occupied countries, already looted, are becoming military and economic burdens to Germany. Allied confidence has returned. Though more countries have been overrun by *blitzkrieg* methods, Britain and the Empire, Free France, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, Russia, China, are all united in the fight against the common foe.

The Royal Air Force, always superior in quality, is rapidly making up its discrepancy in strength. Britain has the initiative in the air, and Germany is being bombed more heavily and far more accurately than was Britain last year.

Italy has lost her vast East African Empire and has herself become an occupied country. On the Egyptian frontier the British and Empire forces hold the initiative. Middle East security, gravely imperilled by Axis plots in Iraq, Syria and Iran has been restored by British and Allied action, and British communications with Turkey are directly established.

America is committed to all help to Britain short of war, and takes the risk of war in implementing Roosevelt's promise that material aid shall reach Britain despite enemy efforts. American troops are in Iceland, the North Atlantic is patrolled, and the Churchill-Roosevelt meeting has confirmed the partnership of the two nations.

There are critical days ahead in Russia and elsewhere. The Nazi war machine has suffered sharp blows but is still capable of vast destruction, and there can be no peace until it is eliminated. There is still no room for complacency, but the outlook is no longer bleak. Men's hearts the world over have been uplifted by Britain's survival and the titanic struggle of the last year.

MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST—(*Continued from Page 12*)

to draw final peace aims and war aims, it was necessary to give the conquered countries "a simple, rough and ready wartime statement of the goal towards which the British Commonwealth mean to take their way." The difference between the attitude in the last war and in the present war is that the United States and Great Britain do not assume that there will be no more wars again. They will disarm the aggressor countries, while keeping themselves prepared. Again, instead of trying to ruin German trade by trade barriers and hindrances as was done after the last war, America and Great Britain have definitely adopted the view that it is not in the interests of the world that any nation should not be prosperous.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED

Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East

FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 11—17, 1941

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

" The economic position of the Indians is getting worse day by day." (*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 12).

In one year alone the export of articles wholly or mainly manufactured in India increased by Rs. 33 crores and 63 lakhs. India's export of rubber manufactures increased eleven times, exports of cotton yarns nearly doubled, and the exports of jute manufactures, iron and steel, chemicals and leather goods all registered substantial increases.

" Today the rulers of India at the edge of the sword are freely plundering her wealth and are dispatching her foodstuffs in ships to England, Egypt, Malaya, etc., so much so that some areas in Sind and the Bombay Presidency are threatened with famine. (*German news in Hindustani, Aug.* 12).

It is only rations for Indian troops abroad that are provided from India. Nor is this paid for by the Indian public, for the cost of all rations despatched to war theatres is debitable to the United Kingdom Government. Moreover, since the indigenous items of food sent to Indian troops abroad are the same as would normally be consumed by them in this country, no scarcity, much less famine, is created thereby.

INCAUTIOU COMPARISON

" The battle of Smolensk was a catastrophe for the Bolsheviks similar to the battle of Dunkirk for Britain." (*German News in English, Aug.* 13.)

It was a catastrophe for Dr. Goebbels similar to the battle of Dunkirk, of which he declared (May 28, 1940) " it is now impossible for Britain to withdraw her troops." We could wish Russia nothing better than to be in the same position a year hence as is Britain a year after Dunkirk.

TURKEY AND EGYPT SLANDERED

" The guarantee of the British and the Soviets to Turkey in the event of war has been received with great resentment amongst Turkish diplomatic circles. . . . The British guarantee has been rejected by Turkey. . . . Turkey could not be duped." (*German News in Persian and Arabic, Aug.* 15).

Half an hour before this Nazi farrago, Ankara Radio quoted in Urdu, Persian and Arabic Deputy Yaltchin's editorial comments in the Turkish paper *Yeni Sabah*, as follows: " These notes have clarified all misconceptions. This move on the part of our friends has created real joy in us. . . . We are pleased to hear words of sympathy from our friends."

" There has been a strong antagonism between the Egyptian Government and the British military authorities in Egypt." (*Italian news in Hindustani, Aug.* 15).

" I am particularly sensible of the perfect understanding between the Egyptian and British troops," said the Egyptian Chief of General Staff on Aug. 12 after an inspection of the Egyptian army. Four days earlier Egypt's Under Secretary for Health, Mr. Hasanein Bey, praised the help given by Imperial troops to victims of indiscriminate Axis bombing.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 19th August 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
August 13, Wednesday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 14, Thursday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on docks at Boulogne; shipping off Frisian Is. (supply ship afire and sinking). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Hanover**; **Brunswick**; **Magdeburg**; docks at Rotterdam and Boulogne.	5 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 12 night bombers.	14 day fighters.
August 15, Friday.	(No reports of day or night operations—bad weather) ..	Nil.	..
August 16, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway communications and aerodrome near St. Omer; docks at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau*; cruiser *Prinz Eugen*); shipping off Dutch coast (patrol vessel afire). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Dusseldorf**; **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in Ruhr and Rhineland; docks at Rotterdam and Ostend.	4 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 13 night bombers.	19 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
August 17, Sunday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on shipping (tanker torpedoed).	2 day fighters 1 day bomber (crew of 4, 3 safe).	7 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks at **Bremen**; industrial districts of **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; other targets in W. and N.-W. Germany.	1 night bomber.	
August 18, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on industrial targets at Lille; aerodrome and troops in N. Brittany; shipping off Dutch coast (3 patrol ships sunk).	3 day fighters.	3 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Cologne**; **Duisburg-Ruhrort**; docks at Dunkirk.	8 night bombers.	
	R.A.F. night fighter offensive patrols, including attacks on aerodromes.		
August 19, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on railway yards at Hazebrouck; shipping off Dutch coast; docks and shipping at Ostend (1 vessel sunk, others hit).	14 day fighters (4 pilots safe). 3 day bombers. 2 night bombers.	12 day fighters.
	R.A.F. night bomber raid on **Kiel**	..	
	R.A.F. night bomber-and-fighter attacks on aerodromes in occupied territory.		

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 19th August 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses
August 13	Nil.	..
August 14	Nil.	..
August 15	Nil.	..
August 16	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 17	Nil.	1 night bomber.
August 18	Nil.	1 day bomber.
August 19	Nil.	1 night bomber.

THE CHOICE BEFORE THE WORLD—(*Continued from Page 14*)

Churchill—Roosevelt

7. " Such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance."

8. " They believe that all the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their country, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable methods which will lighten for peaceloving peoples the crushing burden of armaments."

Hittler

7. " The German navy will be expanded to a strength worthy of a world power. It will carry the German flag and the German name over the face of the globe." (*Admiral Raeder, 28th January 1941*).

8. " War is eternal. War is universal. War is life." (*Hitler Speaks.*)

" After the war, armament will go on at the present rate, bringing new world power to Germany." (*Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, 2nd September 1940.*)

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

23rd Aug.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force attack Western Germany, concentrating attention on the industrial town of Mannheim. Harbours and aerodromes in Occupied France and Belgium are also bombed.

A German raider is shot down over England.

24th Aug.—Royal Air Force fighters attack aerodromes and barracks, troops and gun-positions in Northern France.

25th Aug.—The Royal Air Force makes a raid on communications and industrial objectives in Dusseldorf.

Some enemy planes raid Eastern parts of England and Scotland. No casualties are reported and the damage is slight.

26th Aug.—British aircraft raid Mannheim and Karlsruhe, also the Channel Ports.

27th Aug.—A heavy raid on Cologne and successful attacks on enemy convoys off the German, Dutch and French Coasts are the chief Royal Air Force activities.

There is only very slight enemy activity over Britain.

28th Aug.—The Royal Air Force raids Mannheim and other targets in Western Germany. Channel Ports are again bombed.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22nd Aug.—The Royal Air Force bombs Benghazi. British artillery is active in Tobruk and on the Libyan frontier.

Slight damage is caused and three people are killed in an enemy air raid on Alexandria.

23rd Aug.—A fierce Royal Air Force raid on Tripoli is the high spot of the day's Middle East communiquè. Twenty-five tons of bombs are dropped. An enemy merchant ship in the harbour is sunk.

British artillery disperse a large number of enemy infantry in the Tobruk sector where enemy dive-bombing attacks on the harbour cause insignificant damage.

24th Aug.—The British shell enemy patrols on the Libyan frontier, compelling them to withdraw.

25th Aug.—Another heavy raid is made by a large force of the Royal Air Force bombers on Tripoli. Twenty tons of bombs are dropped.

British patrols are active in Tobruk and another dive-bombing attack by the enemy does only minor damage.

26th Aug.—Cork forests in Sardinia—an important source of supply for the Axis—are bombed and set on fire by aircraft from H.M.S. Ark Royal.

A new East African (military) Command is created under Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Platt. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Alan Cunningham takes over a command in the Middle East.

27th Aug.—The Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm raid Tripoli, Benghazi and Bardia while the South African Air Force is active over Abyssinia.

It is announced that Gen. Huntziger is to take over the command of Vichy troops in North Africa.

28th Aug.—Fifteen tons of high-explosive bombs are dropped on Tripoli by British air-raiders. Benghazi is also raided. Enemy fighters trying to attack British ships in the Mediterranean are beaten off.

Seven people are killed but only slight damage is caused in an enemy air raid on the Suez Canal area.

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

22nd Aug.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, arrives in London for conversations with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, indicates that some arrangement has been made with Japan for the gradual repatriation of American citizens from Japan and the Japanese from the United States.

President Roosevelt, answering critics, reveals that American defence production is on an average up to estimates. He also condemns "appeasers" and would be compromisers.

It is stated in Washington that Soviet Russia has placed orders in the United States totalling £200,000,000.

23rd Aug.—President Roosevelt directs the Navy to take possession of and operate, the strike-bound Kearney Federal ship-building and dry-dock company as the strike jeopardises the construction of vessels essential to the defence of the United States.

24th Aug.—Mr. Churchill in a world broadcast from London, reports on his meeting with President Roosevelt.

American plans for the production in 1942 of army tanks valued at $1,000,000,000 are made public.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Minister of Supply, returns to Britain after his talks with the United States Government.

26th Aug.—President Roosevelt announces that an American Military Mission will be sent to China to direct Lease and Lend activities.

Work is resumed in the Kearney shipyard under the American Navy's orders.

27th Aug.—An American "Liberator" bomber flows the Atlantic from Newfoundland to Ireland in seven hours and a half.

President Roosevelt places under export control all military equipment, munitions, etc.

28th Aug.—United States defence measures in support of the Democracies include an order to manufacturers to accept orders for war supplies from the Unted States, Britain, Russia and China even if such acceptance delays or prevents deliveries of civilian goods, and the creation of a Tanker Control Board to co-ordinate the allocation and utilization of tankers.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22nd Aug.—While the Germans claim the capture of Kherson at the mouth of the Dnieper and a general advance along the entire front, it is made evident that Marshal Budenny has safely withdrawn the Southern Russian Army across the Dnieper river.

Soviet bombers bomb and sink Nazi troop-carrying transports off the Rumanian coast.

M. Lozovsky of the Soviet Information Board contradicts the German story that a Russian battleship and other vessels have been captured at Nikolayev.

The British Military Mission in Russia pays a warm tribute to the skill and morale of the Soviet forces.

23rd Aug.—The Nazi drive to Leningrad is halted while in the south, hard fighting is reported in the fight for the Dnieper bridge-heads. The Soviet High Command declares that Odessa will be defended at all costs.

In the Central Sector, a counter-attack by the Russians under General Koniev captures nine villages in the course of 48 hours.

24th Aug.—The Germans claim the capture of the Dnieper bridge-head at Cherkassy and of the Black Sea port of Ochakov between Odessa and the mouth of the Dnieper. The former claim is not confirmed.

It is revealed that the Russians have completely destroyed Kexholm on the shores of Lake Ladoga before evacuating it.

The Russians rout a Rumanian division in the Odessa region while General Koniev's men in the Central Sector smash a German infantry division, killing at least 3,000 officers and men.

Two German transports are sunk by the Soviet's Northern Fleet.

"No barrier must stand in the way" of help to Russia, says Mr. Churchill in his broadcast talk from London.

25th Aug.—The main fighting in the Battle of the Dnieper continues to be still west of the river in spite of German claims.

Marshal Timoshenko, in a Special Order of the Day, congratulates the Russian Army of the Centre which is triumphantly counter-attacking in the Smolensk-Gomel area.

26th Aug.—The Soviet forces evacuate Novogorod after a bitter struggle. An enemy air raid on Leningrad is beaten off, 101 German planes having been destroyed in 48 hours over the approaches to that city.

27th Aug.—While the Germans claim the capture of Dniepro-Petrovsk and the important railway town of Vellikiye-Luki, it is stated that the Russian forces have launched counter attacks in the region of the lower Dnieper.

In reply to Japanese protests against the sending of American oil and other supplies to Russia through Vladivostock, the Soviet Government tell Japan that they will regard any attempt to hinder trade with the United States *via* Far Eastern Soviet ports as an act inimical to the Soviet Union; and Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, makes it plain at a press conference that America will insist on the freedom of the seas in sending shipments to Russia.

The Moscow Radio announces that Gen. Von Runstedt, Commander-in-Chief of the German army on the southern front in Russia, has been killed by his own officers; but Germany denies the report.

28th Aug.—The Germans claim success in their drive to Baltic ports but the Russians go from success to success in their great counter-attack in the Central Sector. The Russians evacuate Dniepro-Petrovsk after blowing up the huge hydro-electric dam. The Russian Air Force raids Koenigsberg.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAN, IRAQ, SYRIA, ETC

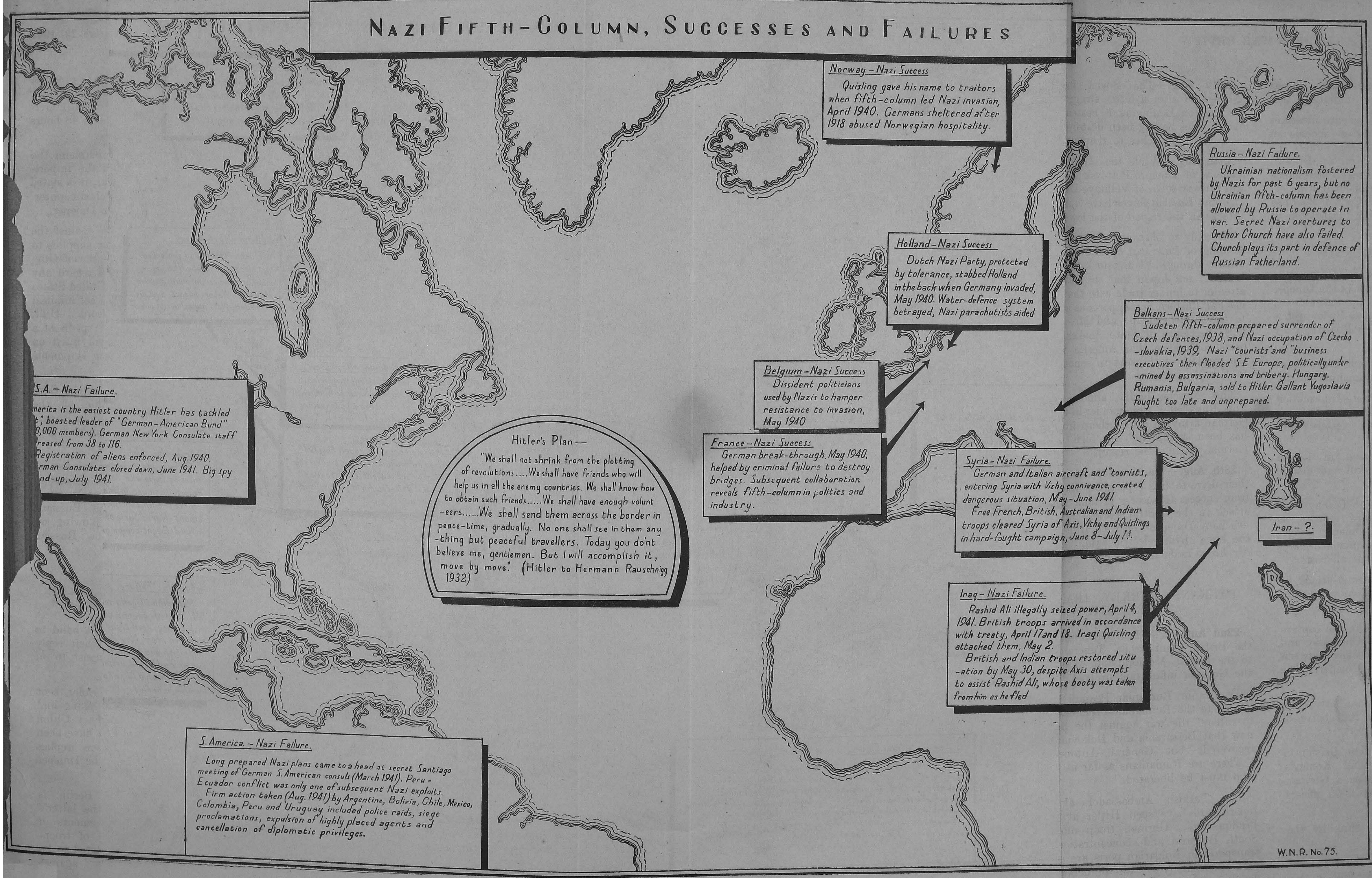
22nd Aug.—The Iran Government hand to the British Minister at Teheran their reply to the British Memorandum of August 16 on the German infiltration in Iran.

Dr. Maniu, Rumanian Peasant Leader, sent a note to the Rumanian Premier, asking him to call off the war against the Soviet Union now that Bessarabia and Bukovina have been recovered; but General Antonescu replies "There are Rumanians as far as the Dnieper who must be liberated."

The Turkish Ambassador at Berlin is reported to have seen Hitler at the latter's headquarters. German troop movements in South Bulgaria and concentration of troop-transports in Bulgarian ports are stated to be part of Germany's "war of nerves" against Turkey.

23rd Aug.—Iran's reply is held to be unsatisfactory in London where a grave view is taken of the situation.

The British Ambassador at Ankara is received by the Turkish Prime Minister. Germany is stated to be sounding Turkey on her attitude in the event of peace in the Near East—particularly Iran—being disturbed.


NAZI FIFTH-COLUMN, SUCCESSES AND FAILURES
Norway – Nazi Success
Quisling gave his name to traitors when fifth-column led Nazi invasion, April 1940. Germans sheltered after 1918 abused Norwegian hospitality.
Russia – Nazi Failure.
Ukrainian nationalism fostered by Nazis for past 6 years, but no Ukrainian fifth-column has been allowed by Russia to operate in war. Secret Nazi overtures to Orthox Church have also failed. Church plays its part in defence of Russian Fatherland.
Holland – Nazi Success
Dutch Nazi Party, protected by tolerance, stabbed Holland in the back when Germany invaded, May 1940. Water-defence system betrayed, Nazi parachutists aided
Balkans – Nazi Success
Sudeten fifth-column prepared surrender of Czech defences, 1938, and Nazi occupation of Czecho-slovakia, 1939. Nazi "tourists" and "business executives" then flooded S.E. Europe, politically under-mined by assassinations and bribery. Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, sold to Hitler. Gallant Yugoslavia fought too late and unprepared.
Belgium – Nazi Success
Dissident politicians used by Nazis to hamper resistance to invasion, May 1940
France – Nazi Success
German break-through, May 1940, helped by criminal failure to destroy bridges. Subsequent collaboration reveals fifth-column in politics and industry.
S.A. – Nazi Failure.
merica is the easiest country Hitler has tackled
t", boasted leader of "German-American Bund"
0,000 members). German New York Consulate staff
reased from 38 to 116.
Registration of aliens enforced, Aug. 1940.
rman Consulates closed down, June 1941. Big spy
nd-up, July 1941.
Hitler's Plan —
"We shall not shrink from the plotting of revolutions.... We shall have friends who will help us in all the enemy countries. We shall know how to obtain such friends..... We shall have enough volunteers..... We shall send them across the border in peace-time, gradually. No one shall see in them anything but peaceful travellers. Today you don't believe me, gentlemen. But I will accomplish it, move by move." (Hitler to Hermann Rauschnigg 1932)
Syria – Nazi Failure.
German and Italian aircraft and "tourists, entering Syria with Vichy connivance, created dangerous situation, May–June 1941.
Free French, British, Australian and Indian troops cleared Syria of Axis, Vichy and Quislings in hard-fought campaign, June 8–July 14.
Iran – ?.
Iraq – Nazi Failure.
Rashid Ali illegally seized power, April 4, 1941. British troops arrived in accordance with treaty, April 17 and 18. Iraqi Quisling attacked them, May 2.
British and Indian troops restored situ-ation by May 30, despite Axis attempts to assist Rashid Ali, whose booty was taken from him as he fled
S. America. – Nazi Failure.
Long prepared Nazi plans came to a head at secret Santiago meeting of German S. American consuls (March 1941). Peru-Ecuador conflict was only one of subsequent Nazi exploits.
Firm action taken (Aug. 1941) by Argentine, Bolivia, Chile, Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Uruguay included police raids, siege proclamations, expulsion of highly placed agents and cancellation of diplomatic privileges.
W.N.R. No. 75.

25th Aug.—It is officially announced that joint military action is taken in Iran by the British and Soviet Governments. The two Governments emphasise that they have no territorial claims on Iran. What they desire are security measures against German intrigues. Iran's independence and integrity will be respected and food will be supplied to the people who are famine-stricken.

British and Indian troops enter Southern Iran from Baluchistan and from the sea; and the Russians enter Iran from the Caucasus There is some resistance which is quickly brushed aside. It is announced that the British and Indian troops will be under the Indian Command (H.E. Sir Archibald Wavell).

The British Government have previously notified Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia of their decision to enter Iran and have given a pledge to Turkey to do nothing that will damage Turkey's interests. The United States Government are also kept informed.

The Iranian Premier tries to justify his Government's attitude at a special session of the Iranian Parliament.

26th Aug.—The Shah of Iran intervenes personally in the Iranian crisis and receives the British and Russian Ambassadors at Teheran.

27th Aug.—The British and Indian troops, it is revealed, have landed at Abadan in Iran and cleared the oil wells area of Iranian forces. Entering Kanaqin from Iraq, they occupy Gilan after slight opposition. A third point of entry is Khorram Shahr; air-borne troops are landed in the Haftkhel area.

The Russian troops advancing from the north occupy Tabriz and Ardebil.

Many Iranian vessels are captured or put out of action by the British, Admiral Bayendor of Iran being killed while attempting to attack the British.

It is reported that while the Shah of Iran has made fresh proposals for a settlement to the British Ambassador, Germany has asked Turkey for facilities for the immediate passage of German women and children from Iran.

28th Aug.—British, Indian and Russian troops make rapid progress in Iran where a new Government, formed by Mr. Farughi, orders Iranian troops to cease fire. The new Prime Minister declares in the Iranian Parliament that he will maintain friendly relations with Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

It is a day of great diplomatic activity at Ankara, the British Ambassador calling on the Turkish President along with the Foreign Minister.

SHIPPING

22nd Aug.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty in a broadcast, says that there are now 190 Allied ships (of which nearly 50 are French) manned by 1,200 officers and 13,000 men, fighting side by side with the British Navy. They are "not merely token forces but strong and welcome reinforcements at a critical time."

23rd Aug.—The First Lord of the Admiralty says that the decrease in British shipping losses in July constitute easily the best news since he went to the Admiralty in May 1940. The Royal Navy has done a grand job.

24th Aug.—An enemy bomber is shot down into the sea by a British trawler when it endeavours to attack the ship.

25th Aug.—The loss of the British submarine *Union* is announced by the Admiralty.

President Roosevelt issues an executive order which will allow British officers and crews to man foreign ships taken over by the United States Maritime Commission and operating under its jurisdiction.

Seven ships out of a convoy of 25 ships are sunk by enemy aircraft and submarines off Cadiz. Survivors are landed at Lisbon.

THE FAR EAST

22nd Aug.—The United States is reported to have taken a firm line during negotiations with Japan.

President Roosevelt issues an executive order declaring Manila Bay, a defensive area and warning ships that they operate there at their own risk.

The Chinese Government are stated to have despatched troops to strengthen the Burma Road defences. It is revealed that 120 Chinese volunteers have been sent to Manila for air training under American experts.

Japanese aircraft raid Chungking in several waves.

23rd Aug.—The Japanese intensify their aerial offensive in Szechuan Province.

The Japanese Ambassador in Washington is received by Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State.

24th Aug.—Chinese fighter planes drive off Japanese bombers which attempt to raid Chentu, the capital of Szechuan.

Mr. Churchill, in the course of his world broadcast, warns Japan that, though every effort will be made to secure a peaceful settlement of her claims, her aggressive policy "has got to stop".

The Tokyo radio broadcasts insinuations against Thailand.

25th Aug.—More reinforcements for the Indian Expeditionary Force in Malaya arrive and disembark at different ports. And the largest single body of the Royal Air Force officers and men to reach Malaya in a year arrives in Singapore.

The Chinese Foreign Minister, Dr. Quo-Taichi, welcomes Mr. Churchill's warning to Japan but expresses scepticism whether America will be able to reach any agreement with Japan within the four corners of the Churchill-Roosevelt Declaration.

26th Aug.—The Chief of the Australian General Staff and the Chief of the Australian Air Staff, arrive in Singapore and have a conversation with the British Commander-in-Chief in the Far East (H.E. Sir Robert Brooke-Popham).

While the authorities in Indo-China ban reports of Japanese troop movements in that country, the Prime Minister of Thailand sends a message to Sir Robert Brooke-Popham for the welcome accorded to the two Thai Military officers who visited the Malaya defence zone.

27th Aug.—The Chinese Cabinet meets at Chungking to consider the situation in the Pacific

The Emperor of Japan receives the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister in audience.

Admiral Nomura, Japanese Ambassador at Washington, calls on Mr. Cordell Hull.

28th Aug.—Mr. Cordell Hull announces that the United States and Japan will hold a series of conferences to try and resolve their differences. The Japanese Ambassador delivers to President Roosevelt a personal message from the Prime Minister of Japan.

VICHY

22nd Aug.—The German Commander-in-Chief in Occupied France issues an order, stating that all Frenchmen under arrest in Occupied France "for any cause" are now considered as hostages following the killing of a Nazi soldier in Paris.

23rd Aug.—The French Cabinet meets twice to consider internal policy. The Official Journal publishes a new drastic law, threatening communists with imprisonment and hard labour and in certain cases, with death. A thousand arrests are made in Paris. Nevertheless, sabotage on the railways continues to be reported.

24th Aug.—Mr. Connally, Chairman of the United States Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, declares: "If the Vichy Government permit German control of Martinque or other French territory in the Western hemisphere, we shall seize that island or any such territory and hold it by armed force".

Mr. Pucheux, Vichy's Minister of Interior, threatening dire penalties against Communists and disturbers of the peace, accuses agents of the Comintern of attempts to stir up trouble in Occupied France and thus make difficult the relations between Vichy and Germany.

25th Aug.—The Canadian Government ban the export of coal to the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in order to forestall any possible attempt to use the islands as Axis fuelling bases.

26th Aug.—Many anti-German riots are reported in France. Four Vichy Ministers arrive in Paris to discuss with the local French authorities the question of combating "terrorism" as well as the reorganization of the food position.

27th Aug.—Shots are fired by a young Frenchman at Pierre Laval and Marcel Deat during a ceremony at Versailles marking the departure of French "Volunteers" to fight Russia. Both the ex-Premier (and lover of collaboration with the Axis Powers) and the dissident Socialist leader are carried to hospital.

28th Aug.—The first executions of Communists under the new "terror laws" have taken place in Paris.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

22nd Aug.—Clashes are reported between the Italian troops and the members of the Peasant Party in Croatia.

23rd Aug.—Count Raczynski, Polish Ambassador in London, is appointed Foreign Minister of Poland in succession to M. Zaleski, who resigned from General Sikorski's Cabinet on the signing of the Polish-Soviet Pact.

King Leopold, it is revealed, has twice refused to return to the Belgian Throne and act as a "Belgian Laval."

25th Aug.—Nearly 200 guerilla fighters in the Bosnian Province of Yugoslavia are executed by the German authorities.

26th Aug.—Sabotage is reported to be rife in Belgium

Professor Bartel, former Prime Minister of Poland, is reported to have been shot by the Gestapo.

27th Aug.—Despite mass arrests, the Norwegians continue to wreck German military camps and communications. A particularly violent explosion in a munitions dump is reported from Trondheim.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

23rd Aug.—King Zahir Shah, speaking at the National Independence Festival at Kabul, reaffirms Afghanistan's neutrality.

24th Aug.—The Nazi Party newspaper *Voelkisher Beobachter* makes sharp attacks on Switzerland and Sweden for staying out of "the fight against Bolshevism."

The Mexican Government withdraw recognition of the German Consulate in Mexico in retaliation for the closing down of the Mexican Consulates in Occupied France by the German authorities.

25th Aug.—The Argentine Government acquire 16 Italian ships lying in their ports.

26th Aug.—A German plane crashes in Eire and the crew are interned.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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